

AFTER 14 DAYS FIGHTING BATTLE IS FIERCEST OF WAR

for days the invaders cannot accomplish more than a stroke here and there, being held firmly on the defensive on the line from Belgium to Lorraine.

Military writers emphasize today that the public must not overlook the importance of the delayed German initiative. Despite the frightful combats of the past two weeks, in which the allies have not been able to drive the Germans from France, the public is reminded that the main German plan has already been foiled. Instead of the rapid advance to Paris, the Germans are now fighting for the line, and it is known to be preparing for the eventual attack of a second German retreat.

Upholding the subdued optimism of the people, the most conservative critics point out that every day lost by the Germans at the line of the Somme, Aisne and Meuse is a distinct gain for France, since the allies can in depleted columns more easily than the Germans and have an advantage in communications. Furthermore, the Russian advance toward Germany is reported to be a real menace, a phenomenon to be met with more than the Germans estimated.

It is added that the Germans are becoming dangerous at the east end of the battle line, in the region of Verdun and along the Meuse. But Paris believes that their strength in the west, in the line of the Somme, Aisne and Meuse, will be shattered before they can break through the French defense eastward. The struggle for possession of that line is continuing and has produced the most terrible fighting of the war.

The Germans are making a supreme effort to halt the vigorous advance of the allies. The fighting today was of the utmost violence in all of the region about Soissons, west of Laon and northward to Peronne and St. Quentin. They have taken position after position only to lose them. This combat has taken the form of virtual house to house fighting.

The Germans, contesting every field, street and village, are concentrating artillery while opposing masses of infantry to the bayonet charges of the allies. It is reported that St. Quentin has been captured and recaptured. The decision of the battle is almost certain to follow permanent success at that position. At Soissons determined charges by the Anglo-French infantry, supported by heavy guns, were successful.

The fighting at the west end of the battle line continues to be on two fronts. The allies are attacking with some success to turn Gen. von Kluck's right, while hammering steadily at his south front. It is admitted that the fourteen-day battle brings no more certainty of a speedy conclusion than was indicated by the first morning.

In the center, the allies are successful in holding the Germans at bay, an all important consideration while great maneuvers are being executed to the west and east. In the Woëvre region the French have repulsed determined attacks and have prevented the enemy from advancing west of the Meuse. There are reports of victories over the Germans in Lorraine, where Gen. Pau is said to have captured a train of ammunition and supply wagons.

ACTIVE ON WHOLE LINE.

Much Loss Inflicted on Enemy, Says British Official Report.

LONDON, Sept. 26.—The following official statement was issued by the official press bureau this afternoon:

"There has been much activity on the part of the enemy all along the line (in France).

"Some heavy counter attacks have been repulsed and a considerable loss has been inflicted on the enemy."

HARASS GERMAN LINES.

Belgians Have Fierce Fight on Sambre Railroad.

By The Sun's and the London "Daily Mail" War Service.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

BELGIUM, Sept. 26.—The German army which is entrenched north of the Aisne depends for ammunition and reinforcements on the railway which crosses Belgium from the German frontier and passes through Namur, Maubeuge and Valenciennes to Cambrai.

Belgians harassing the Germans on this line of communication came in contact with a strong German force near Peronne on Wednesday evening, and here was a fierce fight which lasted several hours. It was renewed on Thursday morning. The Germans were supported by artillery.

OCCUPY VALENCIENNES.

6,000 to 12,000 Germans Now Reported in the Town.

By The Sun's and the London "Daily Mail" War Service.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

BELGIUM, Sept. 26.—Refugees who have arrived here from Valenciennes say that town has been occupied by a large German force, estimated at from 6,000 to 12,000. All the streets are barricaded and no one is allowed to leave without permission of the German commander.

A war contribution of \$300,000 has been levied on the town. Severe measures are threatened if it is not paid within seven days.

A German airship passed over Bethune on Wednesday following the railway from Arras to Dunkirk.

The German force at Cambrai, which was estimated last week at 1,000, has been strongly reinforced. Cambrai has been completely isolated since August 26 and no news can be obtained regarding the situation there.

DECISIVE FIGHT ON.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, September 26.—The German offensive, which was the subject of the general feeling that yesterday's communications were not as optimistic as those of preceding days, says:

"The newspapers and public opinion seem to have forgotten the communications issued toward the end of the battle of the Somme, how they became more and more guarded and even ceased on one afternoon just before victory was assured."

"The German offensive continues. The enemy is making a vast and formidable effort. It is no rear guard action. This was indicated in view of the careful preparations and reinforcements along the Sambre and Meuse well to the rear. It is a great battle with all the forces the enemy can bring from Lorraine, Alsace and Belgium. The decisive fighting will be done on our left, about Soissons and Peronne. A struggle which surprises the horrors of Verdun itself has begun. It is too soon yet to say which way victory leans. More than ever we cry: Confidence and courage!"

Say Krupps Purchased Land Near Maubeuge in 1911

Property Used Recently for Handling of Arms Was Acquired Far in Advance of War, Paris "Matin" Charges.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Sept. 26.—The "Matin" confirms the report that emplacements for heavy artillery were made around Maubeuge before the war. It says:

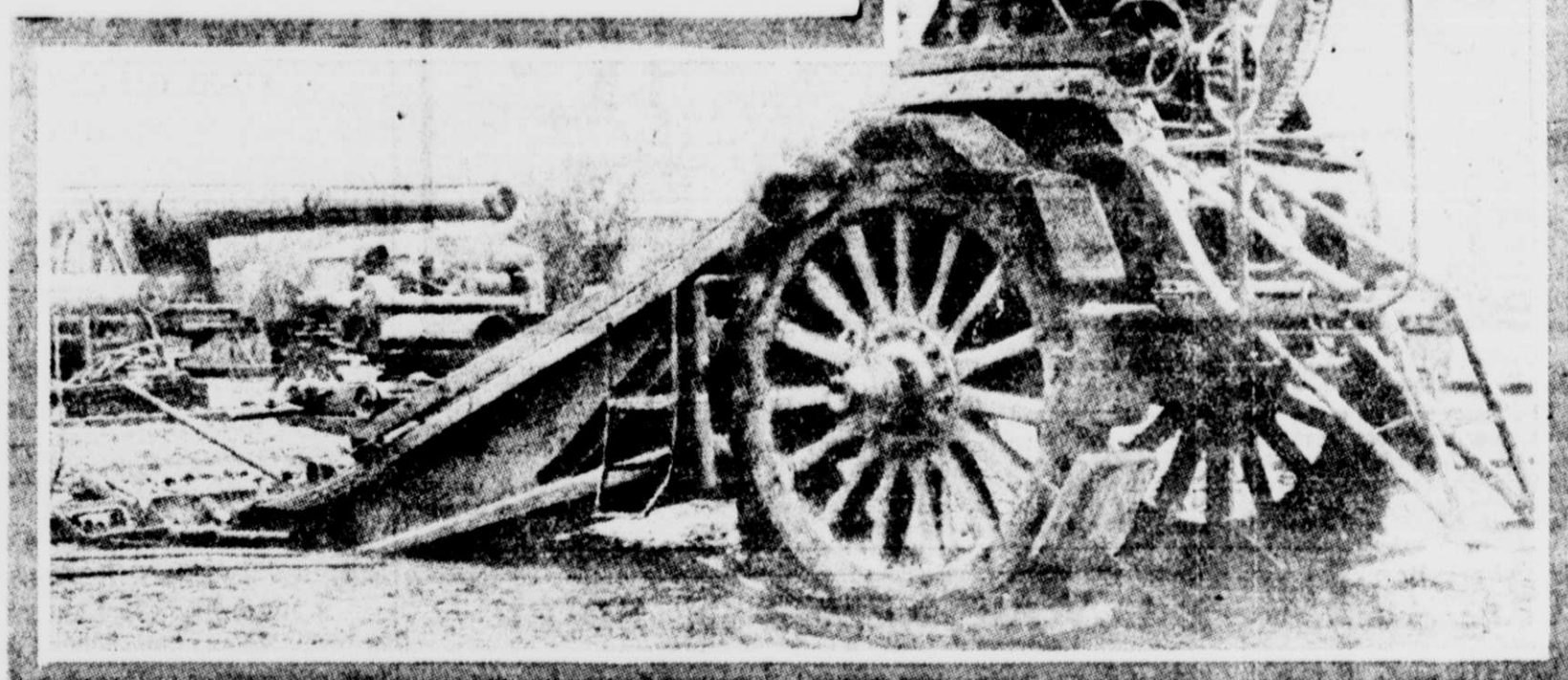
"The works of preparing masonry for heavy guns is a ways long and heavy. The Krupp guns arrived before Paris at the end of November in 1870. They were not ready to be fired before the last days of December. In some cases not until the beginning of January. At Maubeuge they fired immediately. As soon as they arrived, by way of Belgium, they were mounted on carriages which previously had been installed on platforms which themselves had been ready to receive them for several years. Lanier's Works, four miles from Maubeuge, was used by action in July, 1911. The real purchaser of the

most important lot was Frederick Krupp.

"Under cover of a Belgian nominee, the Krupps pretended to install a locomotive factory which was covered with the concrete platforms necessary for huge guns."

KRUPP PLANT BUSY.

EDINBURGH, Sept. 26.—The Krupp works at Essen are being pushed night and day to their full capacity, with 4,000 men constantly employed, according to a woman who has returned from Essen. The entire attention of the plant is being devoted to the gun and ammunition departments, she says. She adds that spies are numerous in Essen and that in one day fourteen Russians wearing women's clothes were shot.



THE GREAT KRUPP SIEGE MORTAR, USED BY GERMANS TO BOMBARD CITIES

NAVAL GUNS USED TO SHELL GERMANS

Long Range Artillery Drives Invaders From Peronne With Awful Loss.

By The Sun's and the London "Daily Mail" War Service.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

A TOWN IN FRANCE, September 25.

All this morning the cannonading sounded much nearer. I understand the French are using heavy naval guns to compress the German right and defeat the effort which it is making to escape the turning movement now in course of development. During the last few days that effort has met with a good deal of success.

It seemed on Sunday last as if the French were getting around the enemy's right wing, but the Germans were reinforced and regained up to yesterday a good deal of the ground they had lost.

It is now said that the Germans have retaken Peronne, but it is added that the French mined the town before they left and blew it up as soon as the Germans entered the town in considerable force. Several thousand Germans are said to have perished. Peronne, as my informant put it, ceased to exist. "Il n'existe plus." It is impossible to obtain confirmation of this, especially as Gen. Broquere and his staff left here suddenly this morning. Before the General went he said the news continued to be satisfactory.

How exactly the enemy is informed of everything that goes on can be judged by the fact that yesterday a German aeroplane tried to drop a bomb on a party of British Royal Engineers who were on making a railway bridge not far from here. Very few people in the town knew they were there, but the Germans knew all about them. Fortunately the bomb hurt nobody.

Saturday I have now heard fuller details of the momentary occupation of Peronne by the Germans and the manner in which they were driven out after hard fighting. The enemy got into Peronne on Thursday night. French reinforcements were expected, but were delayed. The French, therefore, fell back to await the fresh troops. Then they decided not to wait for the reinforcements, but to shell the Germans out.

At 3:20 A. M. Friday the bombardment began. At 4 o'clock Peronne was under a hail of shell. The damage was appalling. One officer said he believed the French troops alone could never have been induced to destroy the town. It would have been too painful.

This reference indicates that the shelling of Peronne was done by the British troops. The reference in the following paragraph to long range naval guns being used in the bombardment seems to indicate that these guns were brought up, not by the French, but by the British, possibly in the face of marines recently landed at Ostend.

The Germans at once saw that it was impossible to remain, as the slaughter was terrible, and by the time the sun rose they were in full retreat. But the long range naval guns gave them no respite and the shells pursued them and made the retreat a massacre. Until noon the guns were busy. After that they were pursued by cavalry with the infantry following up immediately behind.

The retreating Germans took the road northward to Cambrai with the French still hot on their tracks, harassing them continually. Their losses appear to have been enormous.

It is now clear that the staff moved northward from here not as a precaution as at first supposed, but in order to be in a better position to conduct operations against the retreating enemy.

Great German Army To Move on Russia

Continued from First Page.

armies daily and in addition troops are being hurried from Berlin and Schneidemühl to Baltic ports for transport by sea.

"Along the whole western line from near Memel in the north to the frontier of the Government of Kalisch, the armies are in touch, groping by means of reconnaissance and minor collisions for the facts of each other's strength and position. We know that eleven army corps are already in East Prussia; that to these must be added at least five more, of which three are reserves, and that there is a secondary army on the Kalisch frontier whose function is to cover the German right. At least 500,000 German troops of all classes are gathered to try to balance the Austrian failure."

"The concentration, however, has not been marked by that clockwork smoothness which is the Prussian ideal. On the line from Elbing to Königsberg a troop train left the rails with some loss of life and caused a good deal of delay. Also a troop ship grounded at the entrance of the ship canal connecting Königsberg with the sea."

"The troops range from active corps sent from France and Belgium and repaired with reserves to the Landwehr cavalry patrol which pushed forward to Strednki, half way between the frontier and Kovno, and was cut to pieces in attempting to cross the Niemne, included a number of troops of the Garde du Corps. Probably this accounts for the rumor current in the army that the Kaiser himself is coming to Danzig or Königsberg."

"At Groshdny, close to Memel, a party of thirty Prussian infantrymen under an officer entered the village and demanded money. They were driven off by the police, leaving several prisoners who were taken to the Landwehr front in West Prussia. They called up the complete strength of a reserve corps two nights later and Groshdny, now empty of inhabitants, is being bombarded."

"Refugees arriving at Warsaw from Mawa and its neighborhood say that all along the border villages are being emptied. German speaking peasants from the Kovno and Suwalki districts, who speak no language but German, are fleeing to Vilna."

It is reported from Petrograd that Chyrow, south of Przemyśl, was captured by the Russian army operating in the Przemyśl district. This is an important railroad centre and fastens Russia's grip on all central Galicia.

Two Russian columns are advancing against Tarnow. One is moving from the northeast along the Vistula River, while the second is operating from Rzeszow. The latter is in collision with an Austro-German force near the River Wislola.

Russian aviators, in daring scouting west of the Wislola, report that a great force of Germans is assembling between the Wislola and Cracow, and that there is an evident intention to offer strong resistance in that quarter. Petrograd hears that north of Cracow the Germans, with Austrian refugees from Galicia, are completing an immense line of fortifications southward from Kalisz.

The news that the Russians in East Prussia won a great victory over the Germans is confirmed. Trainloads of wounded and captured Germans have arrived at Pskov. The battle was fought on September 25.

Near Stishutsk the Russian advance guard has repulsed a German attack. It is reported that the Germans have been driven back toward Gumbinnen. The Russian advance in East Prussia is reported to be again under full headway.

CRACOW, 75 MILES.

Rome, September 24. The scope of the Russian operations

is defined by official statements from Petrograd.

The first line of Russian troops in Galicia is moving rapidly toward Cracow and is within seventy-five miles of that city. Rzeszow is occupied and all railway lines leading toward Vienna, Budapest and Cracow are in the hands of the Russians.

The second line, reinforced and re-provisioned from Lublin and Lemberg, has isolated Przemyśl, seized the passes of the Carpathians and is holding the completed province of Galicia.

To the north the Russian central armies are striking directly westward toward Posen and Breslau. The general movement of the Russian forces against Germany is in the form of an acute angle, with the point toward Breslau and the base from Warsaw to Lemberg. This wedge is expected to encounter German resistance between Cracow and Kalisz in the coming week.

Petrograd correspondents of Roman newspapers state that the Ministry of War announces the campaign in Galicia as virtually consummated, and that the second stage of the war is now under way with the advance toward Berlin. There is the utmost confidence expressed by the Russian General Staff that the Czar's troops will be in Silesia by October 5. Official estimates are that the Russian first line now being sent against Germany is made up of 1,500,000 trained troops.

Kaiser Said to Be Active.

All East Prussia and southern Silesia are being energetically fortified by the Germans. There is a report that Emperor William is directing defence plans from Hraslau or Posen. Petrograd asserts that the German commanders are disgusted with Austrian incompetence and have insisted on supplanting Austrian Generals in western Galicia.

Italian military experts predict the early surrender of Przemyśl, basing opinions on the news of the day. Przemyśl, completely isolated, is under bombardment night and day. The Russians have seized three of four railroads connecting Przemyśl with Hungary and are already before Chyrow, twenty miles south of Przemyśl, the last key left to communication with Hungary. There is an unofficial report that Chyrow was taken today.

Further successes announced today indicate that Przemyśl cannot hold out. The Russians occupied a hill south of the city, stormed detached fortifications to the southwest and occupied the fortresses of Czystylyk and Polatyn. Yesterday, the Austrians are holding only the eastern fortresses, and their resistance is said to be weakening.

All doubt of the practically complete subjugation of Galicia has been removed by authentic news received here. Within eight weeks, Russia has conquered Galicia, thus insuring the safety of her right flank in the advance against German territory.

GERMANS REPULSED.

The following official statement of the Russian military operations was given out last night by Col. Golovinski, Military Attache to the Russian Embassy.

"On September 25 we repulsed the attempts of the advanced guard of the Germans to penetrate further to the east in the province of Suwalki. Near Schuchow and Anouent our advanced troops have been successfully engaged with the enemy."

"In western Galicia no fighting of importance has taken place. The Austrian army, which has been forced to evacuate Galicia, continues the retreat."

SARAJEVO INVESTED.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

BELGRADE, Sept. 26.—A despatch from Belgrade dated Wednesday says the Serbians and Montenegrins, reinforced by a division under Gen. Karadjewich, have

White Rock

The Mineral Water De Luxe



DRINK WHITE ROCK

End of Battle Near.

Censorship Tightens

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Sept. 26.—The approach of the culminating point of a great battle is marked, as usual, by an increased strictness of the censorship. The papers are warned every day that not only are they forbidden to print all information in regard to the movements of troops but also comments on the operations.

Some papers complain that the censorship has been extended even to matters not immediately connected with the national defense.

off their trenches and started in pursuit. At the edge of the river the Russian infantry checked the Austrians while the Cossacks and artillery crossed by a bridge the infantry falling back as the same bridge and delaying the Austrian advance as much as possible.

Once on the other side of the stream, the Russians were hidden in prepared trenches behind underground. When the infantry had crossed the bridge they set fire to the structure under pressure of this attempting to stop the Austrian advance.

The Austrian infantry rushed on the bridge and their capture forced the river in pursuit. When the pursuing infantry had jammed the bridge full, the Russians exploded mines laid long before and blew up the bridge. At the same time the masked Russian artillery and machine guns opened on the disorganized Austrians.

In panic, the Austrians threw away their rifles and tried to flee across the river, already choked with the bodies of their men, but the Cossacks, sweeping down on the river, forced the stream and finished the work of destruction.

Invested Sarajevo with a line fifty miles in circumference.

The Austrians tried to surprise the left wing, but were repulsed with heavy losses.

KILL MANY AUSTRIANS.

PETROGRAD, via London, Sept. 26.—A correspondent of the Russian State press, on account, which he says he obtained from wounded soldiers, of the destruction of a large Austrian force by a small Russian detachment in Galicia.

The victory was accomplished through a carefully planned plan. Several squadrons of Cossacks and detachments of soldiers, which had been before the Austrian trenches, began a hurried retreat toward a small river under cover of a detachment of Russian infantry.

Unsuspecting the ambush, the Austrians

GERMAN LOSSES, 75,000.

BERLIN (via The Hague), Sept. 26.—The most recent casualty lists issued by the army headquarters contain reports of fatalities which have a complete change of officers since the beginning of the war, all the officers having been killed, wounded or taken prisoners. The lists also contain a promise to show the great mortality among the officers of the German army.

The lists given out today bring the total German casualties up to 75,000, and these lists are admittedly not brought down to date.

Unsuspecting the ambush, the Austrians

BAYONET BETWEEN ARTILLERY DUELS

Battle of the Aisne Described as Alternating From One to Other.

MANY CHATEAUX IN RUINS

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The Paris correspondent of the Times, in describing the battle of the Aisne, says:

"Bayonet attacks alternate with artillery duels all along the line. The front changes day by day, though not so much as to make an important change in the situation."

"Little by little the French are pushing forward. They have driven back the Germans along the Oise and are still capturing isolated parties daily in the forest. The rounding up is being done with great zeal by the Turcos, who now to a bayonet charge love nothing better than beating the woods for straggling Prussians."

"It is pitiful to see the valley of the Oise, one of the most famous and beautiful regions of France, marked in its fairest places by the mark of war. All over the countryside picturesque villages and stately chateaux are reduced to pieces or burned to the ground. Tracy-le-Val, a delightful hamlet in the forest of Laigue, was set on fire by the Germans on Monday and completely destroyed."

At Chaisy-en-Tau, on the Aisne, to the north of Compiègne, a number of houses were gutted. Some French structures fired on a patrol of soldiers beside a broken bridge. For a few days the Germans knew the shots were fired by villagers, so the village paid the penalty. The Chateau Francopre, near the seat of the Marquis de Laigle, whose veins flow the blood of Louis XV., has been sacked from roof to cellar. Chaisy-en-Tau, further back in the forest, met the same fate. Compiègne is in ruins. Its historic chateaux have been riddled with shells.

"Side by side with this havoc and destruction one comes across, containing proof of the forbearance of the Germans. In many cases on door after door in towns and villages which the Germans have occupied, there is to be seen chalked in German:

"Those people have given all they have. Let them be!"

"The inhabitants themselves admit the forbearance of the Germans. The houses of refugees suffered by the occupation. Those who stayed gave what they were asked for and suffered no harm. Compiègne was wonderfully spared. The Germans were there thirteen days and no house suffered seriously. This in spite of the fact that a German officer was shot at in the outskirts."

Bank Buys U. S. Eagles.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Sept. 26.—The Bank of England bought £24,000 (\$375,000) in American eagles to-day.

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